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their work is based upon the eternal principles of right and justice. If ever the world was in need of informed and competent service it is now. Such informed and competent service can be expected only from informed and competent men. Work typified by the efforts of the International Juridical Union is the contribution we now most need. That there is such an organization as this Union is an expression of the inevitable course of international events.

RUSSIA

SINCE the downfall of Kerensky, and the usurpation of power by the Bolsheviks, November 5, 1917, the most important problem facing our modern world has been Russia. When the peace conferees assembled in Paris last December they recognized the seriousness of the condition of Russia and made a few feeble attempts to get that stricken land into line with the purposes they had in mind. They made nothing but a bungle of it, however; of that there is no doubt. In consequence the Russian situation seems to have gone from bad to worse. The divergence of opinion in this country is fully illustrated by the two articles relating to Russia printed elsewhere in these columns.

That we may appreciate something of the results flowing from the weakness of the men who attempted in Paris the impossible double-headed task of ending a great war and of establishing a permanent peace for the world in one and the same instrument, we need only to look around us.

The arrest, trial and judicially ordered deportation from the United States of a large number of Russian Communists, together with publication of the text of documents showing the subversive aims of the group, have made November a notable month. The extent of this propaganda and its virulence have been proved conclusively by the Department of Justice. The effect of the revelations has been to harden public opinion against any coquetting with Russia until there is more stability and genuine democracy in that faction-ridden land. The Department of State, in a statement issued November 4, denied that the United States was party to any blockade of Petrograd, but admitted that it was the policy of the government to refuse license for export shipments to Russia and to refuse clearance to vessels desiring to go to Petrograd as long as war legislation made it possible. Explaining this attitude, the Department based it on the proved purpose of the Bolshevik Government to bring about revolution in the United States, and also because of the refusal of the Bolshevik Government to distribute relief supplies fairly among *all* residents of the former empire. Until this attitude changes, the United States does not intend to provide a commissariat for the class-group that now takes to itself what is the rightful possession of all Russians. Wherever food and supplies

can be placed in Russia so that their disposal may be equal, succor is being given and will continue to be. Japan and the United States are still at odds over the respective rights of their representatives—the Americans, mainly civilian—who nominally at least are there for the purpose of safeguarding the trunk-line railway. Recent severe Bolshevik defeats, on several fronts, of the armies of Kolchak and Denekine, forcing the former to retreat and shorten his line; the failure of the non-Bolshevik forces to capture and enter Petrograd, which at one time seemed likely, and the evident disposition of the newly created States along the Baltic to come to terms with Lenin, contributed to make the Allied and Associated representatives in Paris feel in mid-November that possibly recognition of the Bolshevik domination of Russia might just as well be admitted; and a speech of the British Premier rather hinted at this concession, especially in the light of what the Allies were spending to maintain military and naval forces serving in Russia. French opinion, however, is decidedly adverse to any such course. But the fact remains that the Soviet form of government, as interpreted by Lenin, has survived two years, and that it seems to please a majority of the Russian people; for there has been no serious internal uprising as yet hostile to any perpetuation of the régime—grim, lustful, and covetous as it has been. All gatherings of “workers”—British, French, Italian, and American—so clearly make known their demand for a cessation of the belligerent policy against Lenin, and the costs of that policy are so huge now, that it will not be surprising if some form of compromise is adopted and a basis of agreement arrived at, such as was contemplated by the Western commissioners who brought to pass at Paris the abortive attempt for a conference at Prinkipo.

“Propaganda” on a scale and carried on with an ability never shown in any previous war made graver the difficulties of winning victory or avoiding defeat for generals and statesmen shaping the conflict in all its stages. Today the world still faces a similar display of power of the pen and the printing press to create opinion hostile to the solution of international and domestic problems on any save the most radical lines; for Soviet Russia under Bolshevik management has its astute agents on every continent, financed with ample funds, who have unlimited sums to spend in overthrowing existing forms of government, whether the representative republican democracy of the United States and Argentina, the autocratic monarchy of Japan, or the constitutional monarchy of Great Britain or Italy. Even in far-away Siberia, according to the Omsk correspondent of the *New York Evening Post*, the civil war has become “a duel of propaganda” in which “the writers are more powerful than the generals.” One result of this “boring-in” process of Russians hostile to all forms of government that are not controlled by the proletariat is a decided renewal by nations everywhere of legislation regulative of journalism and publicity, and a forcing together in resistance to the “propaganda” from without of many groups of citizens who, if the issue only involved freedom of thought and speech as to internal, domestic, and national policies, would not affiliate. Nor is it surprising that they should coalesce for a season, at least, since the Bolshevik soviet authorities, whenever they come

into power, exercise so remorselessly their power to suppress a press that dares to question the soviet methods or ideals.

Not content with this active "propaganda" policy for a world-wide revolution putting workers in power throughout the world, the forces back of it have lately disclosed another detail of their tactics. Paris, New York, Buenos Aires, Lima, and Tokio have recently seen radical labor induce "shut-downs" that have seriously crippled the "press" of those cities; and during London's recent railway strike the Northcliffe press was threatened by "labor" if it persisted in editorial denunciation of the workers. We do not mean to intimate that British printers and compositors are in the class with the Russian Bolshevik; but it is true that all groups of workers throughout the world are dissatisfied with the treatment given to "labor" by the average newspaper, that they are preparing to alter the situation, and that, if need be, they will cripple production of the "capitalistic" press.

INADEQUATE MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

CABLE, wireless, and air transportation of news—political, diplomatic, industrial, commercial, and general—during the "World War" period has proved quite insufficient to meet the demand made upon existing agencies. War wastage, banning of private codes, inordinately long governmental messages, to quote Sir Charles Bright, speaking at the British Association recently, have brought about an appalling congestion in the world's cable traffic, causing complications many and costly, and not markedly relieved now, one year after the armistice. Consequently it is not at all surprising that there should be at present much maneuvering to retain possession of cables taken over from Germany, and much talk of the construction of new cable lines around the world, especially those under Pacific waters, inasmuch as Japan, China, Siberia, and India become ever-increasing factors in provoking happenings of which Europe and America wish to be accurately and fully informed. But along with this demand for better cable service there also is insistent clamor for further linking up of the wireless systems, so that there may be full competition between the two forms of service over practically the same area; and inasmuch as the capital outlay for this system is so much less than for a cable system, it may be the first to furnish relief, and in ways that prior to the war would not have been urged. Thus the Navy Department of the United States stands eager and ready now to do commercial business with its up-to-date radio system, providing Congress will assent; and it is likely to do so sooner or later, if the cable and regular wireless companies practice extortion on the public. Add to new cable and wireless facilities the

service which aviation has proved that it can give, on a commercial basis, over both long and short routes, and it is easy to understand what Sir Charles Bright meant when he said that the time had come when air stations were as important as coaling stations for the future British Empire. Every railway line between Washington and San Francisco may go out of business as a mail-carrier, every telegraph and telephone line between the two cities can cease to operate; but by wireless and by aviation the Executive can communicate with the Pacific coast in time of domestic industrial war or foreign invasion. Similarly, London now knows that men can fly to "The Cape" if estopped from going by rail.

In this connection we may remind ourselves of the need of greater wireless and cable service, especially between this country and the Orient, the same being true of our means of communication with South America. American business men need to know the facts out of Japan, China, and our sister republics of the South. Our statesmen need these facts; the peace of the world may depend upon our getting them, and that right early.

UNIVERSAL MILITARY TRAINING AGAIN

THERE is no reason for the American people to be deceived about the design of the militarists to militarize the high schools of our country. In the local high schools in Washington, for example, a lieutenant from the Sixth Regiment of Marines, with overseas service, has been appointed military instructor. Fresh from the scene of the world war, he is planning a number of changes in the work of the cadets, as he says, "to make them as nearly as possible a military organization." Among his plans, frankly stated to the public press, is "to make the war game, or lessons in military science, played by the cadet officers conform to the latest methods of warfare. . . . War games are played by the officers on maps. They are not unlike chess, but more interesting, because the pins the players move about represent armies, and nearly all moves are made on mathematical calculations." A rifle association among the cadets completes the circuit.

The American Legion, which potentially represents the 4,000,000 men who served in the army that either went or prepared to go to France to fight Germany and Austria, has just had its first national convention. The organization has steered clear of politics thus far; it has made no distinctions of caste between ranks or kinds of service in the war; it evaded taking sides on the vexed issue of paying bonuses to all combatants, whether injured or not; it went on record against conscription in time of peace, and it also endorsed universal military training as a "preparedness" measure.